GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2661
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2007
DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS
Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government keeps a vigil on the accumulation of disproportionate assets from their known sources of income by the officers of Income Tax and Excise departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases of alleged corruption and evasion of income tax registered against such officers during each of the last three years;

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to check corruption in these departments?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b): The vigil on accumulation of disproportionate assets from their known sources of income against the officers of Income Tax and Excise Departments are mainly done by the CBI who are empowered to conduct such investigations. These Departments also keep vigil on the assets of their officers through scrutiny of IPRs Immovable Property Returns) filed by them. In case of violation of Conduct Rules, 1964, action is taken by the Departments. However, the suspected cases of accumulation of disproportionate assets are referred to CBI for investigation. Further action against the officers is taken on the basis of CBI`s report.

(c):
(i) The number of cases of alleged corruption registered in the Excise Department during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	No. of cases
2003-04	153
2004-05	117
2005-06	98

(ii) The number of cases of alleged corruption registered in the Income Tax Department during the last three years are as follows:-

Year	No. of cases
2004	45
2005	70
2006	62

Details of cases of alleged evasion of Income Tax registered against such officers are being collected and will be provided later.

(d): The action against the officials found guilty is taken on the basis of CBI`s report. Action taken include

(i) Prosecution of the officer concerned under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in a Court of Law on the basis of sanction for prosecution given by the Competent Authority of the Department or

(ii) Regular Departmental Action by issuance of charge memo to the officer concerned under CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965. The advice of CVC is also taken into consideration while initiating action as indicated above.

(e): In order to reduce corruption, several steps have been taken by the Departments like reducing interface between tthe public and

the officials, computerization and transparency in the system, simplification of rules and procedures, not posting the officers of doubtful integrity to sensitive posts etc.